



986,446

1723

Attorney Docket No. 20496/365

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 1723

Examiner K. S. Menon

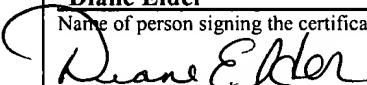
Application of: Wolfgang SCHEIDER, et al.
Serial No. : 09/986,446
Filing Date : November 8, 2001
Entitled : DEVICE FOR FILTERING AND ADDING
GRAIN REFINING AGENT TO METAL MELTS

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Diane Elder

Name of person signing the certification



March 29, 2004

Date

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 29, 2003, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Claims

Claims 1-11 (Previously Cancelled).

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A device for filtering and adding a grain-refining material to a metal melt, said device having a flow direction for said melt, said device comprising: